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PTO/SB/30 (05-03)
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Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/671,953
	Filing Date	September 27, 2000
	Examiner Name	Helms, Larry R.
	First Named Inventor	Meares, Claude
	Art Unit	1642
	Attorney Docket Number	023070-099120US

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

- Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

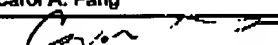
 - ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ☐ Other _____
 - ☒ Enclosed
 - ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
 - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - ☒ Other Petition to Extend Time, Return Postcard
- Miscellaneous**

 - ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - ☐ Other _____
- Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

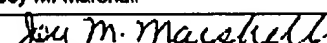
 - ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1430
 - ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - ☒ Other Any other fees incurred during the pendency of this application
 - ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
 - ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Carol A. Fang	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	48,631
Signature		Date	May 15, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

Express Mail Label: EV 332108979 US			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on this date May 15, 2003 and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450			
Name (Print /Type)	Joy M. Marshall	Date	May 15, 2003
Signature			

This collection of information is required for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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